

JUNE 21, 2012

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: CAMPBELL, GIBBS, WARRUM, STRAW, and WALKER along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Nathan Maudlin.

The following visitors were present: Pam Robinson, Fran Thoele, Curt & Paula Schmitt, Vicki Campbell, John Jeffery, Jim Scarafia, Barb & Mick McConnell, Carlene & David VanLaningham, Jeanne Maudlin, Scott Champlin, and Bobby Grider.

Councilman Straw made and Warrum seconded a motion the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker reported on a problem with the pumps at the lift station, which has been repaired. This caused sewer lines on Church St. to back up.

Town Marshal Scott Champlin announced a burn ban has been declared for Posey Co. It is not yet known how this will impact fireworks on July 4.

Park Board President Jeanne Maudlin announced the Parks Board has received \$2,500. grants from the Posey Co. Community Foundation and the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation.

Park Board President Maudlin thanked Erik and Lora Arneberg, who donated 13 trees to the Park Board. Those trees will be planted on June 25. She thanked Councilman Gibbs and gas/street superintendent Bobby Grider for their assistance with this project.

Park Board President Maudlin thanked the family of Olin Davis for asking that donations in his memory be directed to the Park Board. To date, \$332. has been received. This money will be used to purchase a tree in his memory that will be planted on Arbor Day.

Park Board President Maudlin thanked Tri-Kappa for their recent projects at Murphy Park.

Park Board President Maudlin reported the Park Board has moved to make the Maclure Park Bandstand available to rent for \$30. per day. The capacity is estimated to be 25 people.

Park Board President Maudlin expressed concern over Murphy Park campers being informed of the burn ban. Town Marshal Champlin agreed to handle this.

Gas/street superintendent Bobby Grider announced the water problem at the Ribeyre Gym has been corrected.

Carlene VanLaningham asked for a waiver of the shelter house fee for the Hoosier Salon Art Camp that was held June 4-6. Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion the shelter house fee be waived. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Carlene VanLaningham reported \$2,643. was collected at Maple Hill Cemetery in the days leading up to and including Memorial Day by Tri-Kappa and other volunteers.

Carlene VanLaningham complimented the Town on how nice Maple Hill Cemetery looks.

Carlene VanLaningham asked that her rental properties be given sprinkling credit. President Campbell stated Council must deny the request and quoted the ordinance which states that any property used for commercial purposes is not eligible.

Carlene VanLaningham complained about the condition of the property at 618 South St. She stated there are tall weeds as well as logs in the yard. The resident also parks a semi-tractor at the property which she thinks the Town has an ordinance against. Town Marshal Champlin was asked to take care of this. President Campbell stated those logs in the Town right-of-way will be removed by the Town. Mrs. VanLaningham stated the property at 629 South St. has two unlicensed vehicles parked in the front yard. Those properties are on the agenda to be discussed with some other nuisances.

Councilman Walker reported on six properties that Council has received complaints on and asked that Council determine if they are a nuisance. Attorney Maudlin commented Council must make a finding on each property and then follow the procedure outlined in the Town ordinance. Councilman Gibbs stated this has been discussed previously but it was not followed through. He

feels if the property owner does not comply, they should be assessed a fine. The following properties were declared to be in violation of the stated section of the New Harmony Municipal Code: 1019 North St.-8.12.020; 618 South St.-8.12.010, 8.12.020; 629 South St.-8.12.020; 1015 Main St.-8.12.010; 822 East St.-8.12.010, 8.12.020. The property at 623 Murphy St. has an RV parked that has been there for an extended time, but the section of the code it is violating was not determined during the meeting. Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion that the stated properties be declared nuisances and the procedure stated in the Town code begin. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins announced donations totaling \$5,360. have been received for Maple Hill Cemetery. This is in addition to what was collected at the Cemetery. She thanked all those who donated, worked, and helped put out flags for the veterans.

Councilman Warrum reported the rules for Maple Hill Cemetery that were adopted by Council have been posted at the Cemetery. She also stated that citizens who have been made aware of the rules have given positive feedback.

President Campbell asked that discussion on Resolution 2012-2 be tabled. This Resolution accepts the transfer of the New Harmony School property. A special meeting was set for 3:30 p.m. on June 26 to discuss the resolution further. There was concern among Council members that the Town should not sign any documents until the MSD of North Posey has executed the lease.

Ray McConnell commented that several residents on North St. are using the area across the street from their property, as is the case with 1019 North St.

Mr. McConnell reported on the Bicentennial Commission meeting that was held June 19. He handed out a written summary of the meeting.

President Campbell stated a new state law required all municipalities to adopt an ordinance on conflict of interest and nepotism prior to July 1, 2012. The provisions to comply with the new law are contained in Ordinance 2012-7 and Resolution 2012-1. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-7 and Resolution 2012-1 be read in title only. All were in favor. President Campbell read Ordinance 2012-7 and Resolution 2012-1 in title only. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion the documents be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Straw made and Warrum seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker made and Gibbs seconded a motion that Councilman Straw be authorized to work with the Town's insurance carrier on storm damage to Town properties and insurance for the New Harmony School property. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Gibbs reported the new air conditioning unit for Town Hall should be installed soon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

David Campbell, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer